

NEWS ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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West Valley City Giving Tree Helps Families in Need

WEST VALLEY CITY – West Valley City Police Officers will once again reach out to families in need to help brighten their holiday season through the City's Giving Tree Project. The project will help benefit 52 families and 148 youth in this year's event. Families participating in this year's Giving Tree event are either receiving assistance from the West Valley Housing Authority or from the West Valley City Victim Services Office.

The Giving Trees, located at Valley Fair Mall's center court, were decorated for three weeks with mittens that each had a child's name, their clothing sizes, a wish list and a needs list. The presents will be wrapped by volunteers on Wednesday, December 19, 2007 prior to a family event day in which families will join members of the West Valley Police Department for breakfast. The youth will also have a short visit with Santa Clause before receiving their gifts.

"The generosity of residents wanting to help their neighbors is almost overwhelming," stated Mayor Dennis J. Nordfelt. "It is so touching to see how much love is in our community at this time of year."

Partners for the Giving Tree project include Valley Fair Mall, Costco Wholesale, and Hollywood Connection.

Press is invited to the wrapping event on Wednesday, December 19, 2007 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Hollywood Connection skate rink, 3217 South Decker Lake Drive in West Valley City. Due to the sensitive nature of some families' current circumstances, press will not be invited to attend the family event day to help guarantee the safety of the families.

For more information, please contact the West Valley City Neighborhood Services Office at 963-3285.